

Edward Livingston to Andrew Jackson, November 26, 1834, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

EDWARD LIVINGSTON TO JACKSON.

Paris, November 26, 1834.

. . . . My public Despatches by the last packet will have made you acquainted with the state of things here. Since then there has been no change. The Old ministers have resumed their places and are preparing for the struggle the event of which is to Determine whether they are to keep them. The Chambers meet as our Congress will on Monday next, but it has not been deemed prudent to try their strength on the treaty; and I acquiesced in their determination in hopes that your message might come in time to influence the decision. We should have had no chance if the ministry of three days,¹ had continued, and I have some reason to think that my expostulation with the King had an influence in producing the change. The unprincipled language of the opposition papers which throws the blame of the rejection on our government, has a very bad effect here. their articles are republished and asserted to be the Sentiment of the people of the United States. your message I trust will come in time to undeceive them. My Efforts have been, and will continue to be, unremitting to procure a favorable result, which I have some hope of obtaining. I feel all the importance of preventing a rupture from which neither of the parties could derive any advantage and therefore use every honorable means to prevent it. . . .²

¹ The ministry of the Duc de Bassano, Nov. 10–12, 1834.

² Writing to the Secretary of State Jan. 15, 1835, Livingston said: "The law was not presented yesterday, but will be today; and I have been informed that it is to be introduced

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by an *exposé* throwing all the blame of the present state of things on M. Janvier and me for not truly representing the opinions of our respective governments. They may treat their own minister as they please, but they shall not, without exposure, presume to judge of my conduct, and make me the scape-goat for their sins. The truth is they are sadly embarrassed.”